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COCOA BEANS FCB 1-69 March 1969

1968-69 WORLD COCOA BEAN CROP TO

BE BELOW CONSUMPTION REQUIREMENTS

Summary

The 1968-69 world cocoa bean crop is now estimated at 1,187,000 metric tons, down 11.5 percent from the year before and the smallest harvest since the 1962-63 outturn of 1,161,900 tons. The harvesting of the African main crops has been virtually completed, confirming previous forecasts of substantially lower production because of damage from heavy rains earlier in the season. South American production is still expected to be below the level of a year earlier, reflecting smaller crops in Brazil and Ecuador. However, production in North America, Asia, and Oceania is anticipated to show slight increases over the 1967-68 harvests.

New York spot Accra cocoa bean prices during 1968 averaged 34.4 cents per pound, the highest annual level since 1959. Responding in part to reports of lower grindings in several major consuming countries in the fourth quarter of 1968, prices during January 1969 averaged 44.7 cents, easing somewhat from the December average of 48.7 cents per pound. February prices averaged 44.0 cents, although firming toward the end of the month on news of overdeclaration of Ghana's main crop and higher-than-expected January grindings in the Netherlands.

Because of smaller supplies and substantially higher cocoa bean prices, some reduction in world grindings can be expected in 1969, and stocks will have to be drawn upon further for the fourth consecutive year to fulfill global consumption needs.

World cocoa bean prices have advanced dramatically over those of a few years ago, but only moderate price increases have been granted by the Marketing Boards and Stabilization Funds to the African farmers. Adequate availabilities of spray materials to combat capsid and pod rot losses are still needed in several major producing countries. Grower prices will probably be raised again in the near future, but much has yet to be done to encourage extensive new plantings and to expand the use of cultural practices to bring world production in balance with consumption needs.

Major Producers

Africa: Reflecting the effects of adverse weather conditions, African production this season is expected to amount to only 828,600 tons, down 15 percent or 144,400 tons from the 1967-68 crop. Unusually heavy rains during July-September greatly reduced yields and created serious difficulties in moving cocoa from the interior producing areas to port for export.

Ghana's crop has been revised downward to 335,000 tons (330,000 long tons), well under the 421,600-ton level of the previous year. Although main crop purchases through the end of February approximated 320,000 tons (315,000 long tons), a recent announcement of the Marketing Board that the crop has been overdeclared will probably result in a main crop near 310,000 tons (305,000 long tons). It is too early to make an accurate estimate of the mid-crop, but an outturn of 25,000 tons is thought to be possible.

Preliminary data indicates that Ghana's 1968 cocoa bean exports totaled about 326,000 tons, down slightly from the 334,933 tons shipped the year before. Exports during January 1969 amounted to 38,760 tons, against 47,142 tons in the same month of the previous year.

Nigeria's crop is now expected to reach 190,000 tons, but still well under the 1967-68 outturn of 235,000 tons. As the Soviet Union is not able to contract for sufficient cocoa from Ghana, it is now relying more heavily on Nigeria as one of its major suppliers. Nigerian exports of cocoa beans to the Soviet Union during the first 10 months of 1968 totaled over 21,000 tons valued at \$15.2 million. This compares with Nigerian shipments to the Soviet Union of nearly 16,000 tons valued at \$11.2 million in all of 1967, and no shipments to the Soviets in 1966. The Soviet Union has also contracted to purchase substantial quantities of Nigerian cocoa butter.

Ivory Coast production is still estimated at 130,000 tons. Harvesting through the end of February reached 119,431 tons, about 7,000 tons under the corresponding period a year earlier. Despite considerably higher world cocoa bean prices, the Ivoirian producer price remains unchanged at the 1967-68 rate of 70 CFA francs per kilo (12.8 U.S. cents per lb.).

COCOA BEANS: World production for specified countries, crop year 1968-69 with comparisons 1/

Continent and country	Average : 1960/61- : 1964/65 :	1965-66 :	1966-67	1967-68 :	Forecast 1968-69
:	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000 :	1,000
	metric :	metric :	metric :	metric :	metric
·	tons :	tons:	tons:	_tons :	tons
orth America:	-00115			-00110	00116
Costa Rica	11.4	6.9	8.9:	7.3:	10.
Cuba	2.2:	2.0:	2.0:	2.0:	2.
Dominican Republic	35.4:	30.0:	28.5:	29.0:	
Grenada	2.4:	2.3:	2.7:	2.8:	2.
Haiti	2.3:	2.1:	2.1 :	2.0:	2
Jamaica	2.2 :	2.0:	1.5:	2.3 :	2
Mexico	20.3:	22.8:	20.5:	21.0 :	22
Panama	1.0:	.7:	.8:	.8:	-
Trinidad and Tobago	6.1 :	5.3:	4.7:	6.6 :	7
Other North America 2/	1.5:	1.7:	1.5:	1.6:	i
Total North America	84.8:	75.8:	73.2 :	75.4:	
	04.0 .	15.0 .	13.2 :	77.4 :	02
outh America: :	:	:	•	:	
Bolivia:	2.0:	2.0:	1.0:	1.5:	1
Brazil:	118.1:	171.0:	173.3:	144.7 :	130
Colombia:	14.7:	17.0:	17.0:	18.0:	21
Ecuador:	41.3:	36.0:	53.0:	70.0:	60
Peru:	2.5:	1.8:	1.7:	1.7:	1
Surinam	.3 :	•3:	•3:	•3 :	
Venezuela	16.7:	22.9:	21.0:	24.1:	24
Total South America	195.6:	251.0:	267.3:	260.3:	239
frica:	•	•	:	•	
Angola	.4	.6 :	.4 :	.4	
Cameroon 3/	79.9:	78.1 :	84.2	91.5	
Congo, Brazzaville	.8:	1.0:	1.0:	1.0:	1
Congo, Kinshasa	5.4:	4.0:	5.0:	5.0:	
Fernando Po and Rio Muni	30.2:	35.0:	38.5 :	34.0:	
Gebon	3.6:	3.8:	3.8:	4.0:	14
Ghana	458.4 :	415.6:	381.4:	421.6	335
Ivory Coast 4/	104.7	113.3:	149.6:	146.6:	130
Liberia	1.0:	1.1:	1.4:	1.9:	
Malagasy Republic	.5 :	.8 :	.6:	.5 :	
Nigeria	217.8:	184.6:	267.3:	235.0:	
Sao Tome and Principe	9.5:	9.7:	10.0:	10.7:	_
Sierra Leone	3.7:	4.7:	4.0:	4.8:	4
Togo 4/	13.3:	14.7	16.0:	16.0	14
		867.0:		973.0 :	
Total Africa	929.2:	001.0 :	963.2:	313.0	020
sia and Oceania:	•	•		•	
Ceylon	2.3:	2.0:	1.9:	2.0:	2
Indonesia ·····	1.0:	1.0:	1.0:	1.0:	-
New Guinea and Papua	14.2	17.8:	21.2:	24.0:	27
New Hebrides	•7:	•7:	•7:	.8 :	
Philippines · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	3.6:	3.9	3.5 :	3.4:	3
Western Samoa	3.9:	2.3:	3.2:	1.8	3
Total Asia and Oceania	25.7:	27.7:	31.5:	33.0:	37
	67.1	Z (• [•	2エ・フ・	22.0 :	31
World total		1,221.5 :			1,187

^{1/} Estimates are based on a crop year of October 1 to September 30. 2/ Includes Dominica, Guatemala, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Nicaragua, and St. Lucia. 3/ Beginning with 1961-62 includes former British Southern Cameroons. 4/ Includes some cocoa marketed from Ghana.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, other foreign source materials, reports of U.S. Agricultural Attaches and Foreign Service Officers, results of office research, and related information.

The <u>Cameroon</u> harvest is proceeding quite satisfactorily and is expected to approximate a record 98,000 tons. Cocoa bean exports by East Cameroon during January-July 1968 totaled 38,470 tons valued at \$24 million, compared with 41,920 tons valued at \$22.3 million in the similar 1967 period. Cocoa product exports during the same period amounted to 10,070 tons, down slightly from the 10,840 tons shipped in the corresponding months a year earlier.

South America: Brazilian production is forecast at 130,000 tons, off nearly 15,000 tons from the year before. The Bahia main crop is now estimated at 910,000 bags (54,600 tons), and the 1969 Temporao crop is provisionally forecast at 1.1 million bags (66,000 tons). However, if recent favorable growing conditions continue, the Temporao crop could reach as high as 1.3 million bags (78,000 tons). Production from other Brazilian regions usually amounts to 150,000 bags (9,000 tons). Cocoa bean exports in 1968 totaled 72,544 tons valued at \$44 million, compared with 114,351 tons valued at \$59.2 million in 1967.

Ecuador's production for both 1967-68 and the current season has been revised upward. Recent data now indicate that the 1967-68 crop reached a record 70,000 tons and that production this year could be a near-record 60,000 tons. The Soviet Union entered the Ecuadorian cocoa market for the first time in 1968, taking 18,666 tons out of total shipments of 58,019 tons during the January-November period. The United States, usually the largest recipient of Ecuador's cocoa, fell to second place, taking 17,098 tons.

Other areas: In contrast to smaller crops in Africa and South America, production in North America, Asia, and Oceania is still anticipated to show increases over the levels achieved in 1967-68.

Major Consumers

United States imports of cocoa beans in 1968 fell 19 percent to 231,869 tons valued at \$136 million. The average annual unit import value in 1968 rose by 3.36 cents to 26.61 cents per pound. The average unit import value in January 1969 was 30.78 cents, compared with 21.95 cents per pound in the corresponding period a year ago.

Ghana was the largest supplier of cocoa beans to the United States in 1968, increasing its share to 74,555 tons valued at \$45.5 million. However, imports from Brazil, Nigeria, and Cameroon were off sharply from the year before.

With the exception of cocoa butter, U.S. imports of cocoa products were all above their 1967 levels. Imports in the category "chocolate, sweetened except bars and blocks" (TSUS No. 156.30) rose sharply to 29,918 tons from 16,467 tons in 1967, primarily reflecting larger shipments of chocolate milk crumb from Ireland and the United Kingdom. Nigeria has now become an important source for the United States of cocoa cake and cocoa butter as its newly opened processing plant is in full operation.

U.S. cocoa bean grindings in 1968 totaled 641.3 million pounds, down 1 percent from the year before. The fourth-quarter 1968 grind was off sharply from that of the corresponding 1967 period, falling 7 percent to 163 million pounds. Because of smaller supply availabilities and higher cocoa bean prices, U.S. grindings are expected to continue to decline this year.

Cocoa bean grindings by the <u>United Kingdom</u> during 1968 amounted to 92,964 tons, down 2.9 percent from the 1967 level of 95,707 tons. Imports of cocoa beans also fell from those of a year earlier, totaling 77,457 tons against 88,562 tons in 1967. Cocoa butter imports were 25,882 tons, down slightly from 1967 imports of 26,273 tons.

The <u>Netherlands</u> cocoa bean grind in 1968 totaled 111,580 tons, virtually unchanged from 1967 grindings of 111,540 tons. Cocoa butter imports in 1968 amounted to 17,391 tons and exports were 50,838, compared with 1967 trade of 16,338 and 50,441 tons, respectively.

West German imports of cocoa beans in 1968 were 137,211 tons, against 137,775 tons in 1967. Grindings for 88 percent of the cocoa industry totaled 140,200 tons, compared with 143,800 tons in the year before.

French cocoa bean grindings in 1968 fell 4.1 percent from those of a year earlier to 49,200 tons. Spain's grind in 1968, however, rose by 5.7 percent to 34,254 tons.

COCOA BEANS: United States imports and unit value by country of origin, 1967-68

Country of origin	1967					1968						
	Metric tons	:	1,000 dollars 1/	:	Cents/ pound 1/	:	Metric tons	:	1,000 dollars 1/	:	Cents/ pound 1/	
Africa:		:		:		:		:		:		
Cameroon	177	:	4,306	:	25.95	:	1,654	•	1,024	:	28.08	
Ghana		:	36,583	:	24.07	:	74,555	•	45,515	:	27.69	
Ivory Coast:	26,894	•	13,062	:	22.03	:	21,855		13,947	:	28.95	
Malagasy Republic:		:		:		:	10	•	7	:	33.48	
Nigeria		:	22,543	:	23.29	:	31,260	:	16,679	:	24.20	
Sierra Leone:		:	53	:	23.75	:	254	:	100	:	17.88	
Togo:		:	306	:	27.78			:		:		
Others	998	:	545	:	24.76	:	250	:	155	:	28.06	
Total	148,850	:	77,398	:	23.59	:	129,838	:	77,427	:	27.05	
Latin America:		:		:		:		:		:		
Brazil	67,978	:	33,711	•	22.49	:	32,069	•	18,479	:	26.14	
Colombia:		:	18	:	23.75	:	167	•	. 98	:	26.58	
Costa Rica	5,147	:	2,555	:	22.52	•	3,882	:	2,410	:	28.16	
Dominican Republic .:	23,337	:	11,465	:	22.28		25,457		13,887	:	24.75	
Ecuador		:	10,449	:	24.43	:	18,110	:	10,804	:	27.06	
Guatemala		:	88	:	21.77	:	340	•	203	:	27.04	
Haiti		:	129	:	21.59	:	367	:	208	:	25.68	
Jamaica		:	11	:	27.42	:	449	•	277	:	28.00	
Mexico	7,300	:	3,534	:	21.96	:	5,498	:	3,133	:	25.85	
Nicaragua:		:		:		•	14	:	. 8	:	24.52	
Panama		:	913	:	23.57	:	1,598	:	960	:	27.24	
Peru		•	28	•	22.99	:	_90	:	49	:	24.72	
Trinidad & Tobago:		:	1,206	:	27.20	:	3,613	:	2,351	:	29.51	
Venezuela			1,864	:	22.62	:	5,281	•	2,838	:	24.38	
Others	492	:	247	:_	22.77	:	143	:	78	:	24.90	
Total	131,717	:	66,218	•	22.80	:	97,078	:	55,783	:	26.06	
Asia and Oceania:		:		:		:		:		:		
Australia	231	:	118	•	23.09	•	787	•	451	:	26.00	
Indonesia		:	42	:	24.98	:	77	:	46	:	27.11	
New Guinea		:	2,279	:	23.52		, , , , , ,	:	1,632	:	26.38	
New Zealand		:	595	:	29.27	:	- / 0	:	334	:	23.17	
Others	60	:	29	:	21.81	:	551	:	311	:	25.58	
Total	5,684	:	3,063	:	24.44	:	4,874	:	2,774	:	25.82	
Not specified:	936	:	532	:	25.76	:	79	:	49	:	27.90	
Grand total		:	147,211	:	23.25	:	231,869	:	136,033	:	26.61	

Foreign Agricultural Service. Compiled from reports of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

SPECIFIED COCOA PRODUCTS: United States imports and unit value by country of origin, 1967-68

Country of origin	1967						1968						
•	Metric	:	1,000	:	Cents/	:	Metric	:	1,000 :	Cents/			
•	tons	: d	ollars 1/	:	pound 1/	•	tons		ollars 1/:				
Chocolate, Unsweetened:		:		:		:		:					
Dominican Republic:	343	:	218	:	28.82	•	388	:	246 :	32.51			
Ecuador:	87	•	62	:	32.35	:	69	•	47 :	30.57			
Germany, West:	150	:	102	:	30.92	:	280	:	196 :	31.77			
Ghana:	584	:	404	:	31.37	:	102	:	83 :	37.01			
Haiti:	1,508	:	,	•	- /	:	1,094	:	610 :	25.29			
Ivory Coast	18 426	•	12	:		:	151	•	109:	32.89			
Mexico		:	266 573	•		:	1,199	•	859 :	32.51			
Netherlands:	755 114	:	573 56	:		:	1,086	•	936 :	39.09			
Others:		-		:_	21.98	<u>:</u>	100	:	59:	26.86			
Total ·····:	3,985	:	2,479	:	28.22	:	4,469	:	3,145 :	31.93			
Chocolate, Sweetened, Bars: :		:		:		:		:	:				
(Not under 10 lbs. each) :		:		•		:		:	:				
Belgium:	28	:	22	:	34.58	:	100	:	74 :	33.54			
Canada:	568	:	396	0	5-00	•	327	:	234 :	32.48			
Dominican Republic:	31	:	. 9	:	12.66	:	26	:	7 :	13.01			
Netherlands:	60	:	47	:	3	:	90	:	69 :	34.74			
New Zesland:	34	:	23	:	3-474	:	47	:	37 :	35.96			
Switzerland	715	•	, , ,	•	27-17	•	820	:	737 :	40.75			
United Kingdom	1	:	1	:	47000	:	5	•	3 :	26.67			
Others :	22	:	13	<u>:</u>	34.20	<u>:</u>	98_	:	76 :	34.98			
Total:	1,459	:	1,075	:	33.41	:	1,513	:	1,237 :	37.09			
Chocolate, Sweetened:		•						٠					
(Except bars and blocks)		•		•		•		•	•				
Austria	4	•	6	•	67.45	•	15	•	14 :	42.40			
Belgium:	1,398	:	1,149	:		:	4,446	:	2,347	23.94			
Brazil	16		12	:	I	:	100	:	133 :	60.32			
Canada:	1,111	:	993	:		:	1,847	:	1,726 :	42.39			
Czechoslovakia:	59	:	0/	:	66.29	:	46	•	67 :	65.69			
Denmark	27	:	47	•	80.12	•	25	:	45 :	81.83			
Dominican Republic:	11	•	Ł	:	15.51	:	16	:	8:	21.75			
France:			15	:	50.59	:	18	:	20 :	50.26			
Germany, West:	308		447	:	-	:	700	:	810 :	52.50			
Ireland 2/:	4,918	:	1,949	:	-1-21	:	9,310	•	3,766 :	18.35			
Israel:	. 91	:	112	:		•	154	•	195 :	57.36			
Italy:	447	:	595	:	60.42	•	637	:	824:	58.71			
Mexico:	28	:	14	•		:	20	:	15 :	35.19			
Netherlands:	2,000	•	1,974	•		:	4,755	:	3,693 :	35.23			
Norway:	13	:	14	:	47.92	-	10	:	11 :	54.50			
Sweden	295	:	3	:	81.89		2	:	780	77.55			
Switzerland:	385	•	699	:		:	427	:	789 :	83.77			
United Kingdom 2/	5,609	:	2,498	:	20.20 48.66	:	7,348 42	0	3,193 :	19.71 46.61			
Others:	27		30	:	40.00	•	42	:	43 :				
Total :	16,467	:	10,641	:	29.31	:	29,918	:	17,703 :	26.84			
Confectioners Coatings: :		:		:		:		:	:				
Netherlands	1	*	2	:	173.10	:	58	:	63 :	49.45			
Switzerland:	155	:	152	:	44.52	:	211	:	223 :	47.96			
Others:		:		:		:	9	:	8:	37.43			
Total:	156	:	154	:	44.89	:	278	:	294 :	47.94			
				_		_							

(Continued)

SPECIFIED COCOA PRODUCTS: United States imports and unit value by country of origin, 1967-68 -- Continued

Country of origin		1967		1968							
:	Metric	:	1,000	:	Cents/	:	Metric	:	1,000	;	Cents/
:	tons	d	lollars 1/	:	pound 1/	:	tons	: <u>d</u>	ollars 1/	1	cound 1/
Cocoa, Unsweetened and:		:	:	•		•		:		:	
Cocoa Cake:		:	-1.0	:		•	, ,	:		•	
Brazil ·····::	6,295	:	748	:	5.39	:	6,074	•	896		6.69
Cameroon ·····::	630	•	51	•	3.67	:	445	:	47		4.78
Dominican Republic.:	65	:	7	:	4.76	:	31	•	4 :	•	6.48
Ecuador:	330	•	_	:	4.64	:		•		•	
France:	633	:	174	•	12.44	:	1,122	:	296	•	11.97
Germany, West:	10,008	:	1,512	:	6.85	•	8,467	:	1,825	•	9.78
Ghana:	3,089	•	402	:	5.91	:	4,432	:	747	•	7.65
Italy:	2,189	:	254	:	5.26	:	1,030	:	179	:	7.90
Ivory Coast:	5,529	•		•	4.15	:	5,835	:	771		5.99
Mexico:	283	:		:	10.11	:	1,280	:	196		6.96
Netherlands:	17,829	:	6,503	:	16.55	:	18,317	:	7,406		18.34
Nigeria ·····:		:		•		:	7,436	•	1,042		6.36
United Kingdom:	230	:		:	14.52	:	142	:	41 :		12.91
Others:	500	:	95	:	8.52	:	43	:	16		16.39
Total:	47,610	:	10,422	:	9•93	:	54,654	:	13,466		11.18
Cocoa, Sweetened:		:		:		:		:			
Dominican Republic ::	340	:	87	:	11.60	:	382	:	98		11.60
France:	54	:	14		11.60	:		:			
Netherlands:	4	:	8	•	84.85	:		:			
United Kingdom:		:		:		:	49	•	16		15.24
Others:	4	:	1	:	20.25	:	2	:	2		40.91
Total:	402	:	110	:	12.43	:	433	:	116	:	12.15
Coops Button:				-		-		-			
Cocoa Butter: :	2,376	•	2,686	•	51.28	•	2,059	•	2,784	•	61.33
Costa Rica ······	110	•	131	•	53.82	•	110	•	148	•	60.86
Ecuador · · · · · · :	110	•		•	75.02	•	80	•	112	•	63.72
Germany. West · · · · :	97	•	108	•	50.55	•	68	•	81	•	54.44
Ghana:	2,587	•	2,991	•	52.43	•	1,253	:	1,632	•	59.09
Ivory Coast · · · · · :	1,825	:	/	•	53.59	:	418	•	564	•	61.20
Jamaica · · · · · · · · :	60	•	73	•	55.18		171	•	238		63.06
Japan	10	•	13	•	57.63		-1-	•	250	•	
Mexico	785	•	0	•	53.02	•	1,224	•	1,638	•	60.68
Netherlands · · · · · :	1,476	:	- 0-6	•	55.53	:	1,923		3,022	•	71.29
Nigeria	252	•	325	•	58.47	•	1,042	-	1,406	•	61.23
Philippines · · · · · :	746	•	894	•	54.37	:	535		748	•	63.45
Venezuela ······:	154	•	157	•	46.10	•	161	•	190	•	53.43
Others:	28	•	32	•	50.59	•	8	•	10	•	57.40
		•		•		•		•		-	63.01
Total:	10,506	:	12,290	:	53.05	:	9,052	•	12,573		03.01

^{1/} Value f.o.b. country of origin. 2/ Mostly chocolate milk crumb.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Compiled from reports of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

COCOA BEANS: New York spot price "Accra" -- cents per pound

1.	0	m = m = 0 = =
Avg		
Dec.	94. E.O. 9.04. E.4. V.V. I. V.4. V.V. V. W. B.	26.1 24.0 26.1 31.3 31.3
	\cdots	
Nov.		25. 18. 31. 18. 15.
Oct.	011111 01171101 0117101 0117101 0117101 0117101 0117101 0117101 0117101 0117101 0117101 011710 011710	99.5.0
•		
Sept	0111110101010101010101010101010101010101	23. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.
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Bureau of Labor Statistics through December 1965. New York Journal of Commerce beginning January 1966.

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